

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

WAR GAZETTE.

OPERATIONS OF THE FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

PARTICULARS OF THE OCCUPATION OF WINCHESTER.

COMPLETION OF THE TELEGRAPH LINE—DEBATES GIVING THEMSELVES UP, ETC.

WINCHESTER, Va., March 12—9 P. M.

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The people generally are intensely delighted at our presence, and hail it as the harbinger of peace and future prosperity.

The regiments, as they pass along, are cheered and greeted from the houses of the citizens, and the cheers are responded to by our officers and men.

The other columns of General Banks' division, which will approach by the Berryville route, has not yet arrived.

Not a shot has been fired.

Yesterday the rebels arrested eighty of the most prominent Unionists, and sent them to Richmond.

Coffee sells at 75c. a \$1 per pound; sugar, 25c. a 37c. and coffee 50c. Other articles are more abundant.

It is represented by the resident Unionists that two-thirds of the population of this town and county are loyal to our government, but have been compelled to submit to the secession, pressure so far as the expression of opinion was concerned.

There have been no Richmond papers received here for a week, and the citizens are entirely ignorant of the thrilling events which have transpired within that period.

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The cavalry were first to leave, and they departed just before we entered the town.

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A train for Harper's Ferry will start early in the morning to obtain commissary supplies.

The telegraph line to this place has just been completed, making complete connection to all points.

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Colonel Leonard, of the Massachusetts Thirtieth, has been detailed for provost duty by order of General Hamilton, military commander.

Among the distinguished persons here is Mrs. Dunbridge, late Mrs. Bliss, daughter of the late President Taylor. Her husband is an officer in the rebel service.

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THE MOVEMENTS ON THE POTOMAC.

OCCUPATION OF THE REBEL WORKS ON THE LOWER POTOMAC.

UNITED STATES STEAMER STEERING SERVICE, QUANTICO CRUISE, Va., March 12, 1862.

We entered Quantico creek this morning, Lieutenant Commander Eastman, of the Yankees, having come on board with his gig crew, and we have just taken on board the steamer and chain recently belonging to the rebel steamer George Page.

The schooner Fish, captured by the rebels in October last, lies near us. She is burned to the water's edge, and is on the Page.

Several boats and crews are in the creek.

Aqua creek has not been evacuated by the rebels, but the reinforcements of rebel troops have evidently withdrawn.

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Two men belonging to a Massachusetts regiment, who formed part of a scouting party nearly as far as Dumfries, Maryland, are missing. They are supposed to have been taken prisoners by a rebel cavalry company.

Yesterday Lieutenant Commander Eastman, of the Yankees, accompanied by Mr. Moore and Engineer Carpenter, landed at Shipping Point and proceeded to a hill half a mile from the river, where the celebrated rebel one hundred and twenty pounder was mounted.

The party took with them slow matches, with the design of burning the gun. They loaded it with a very large charge of powder and a shell. The slow match was lighted, leading to the vent, and the party betook themselves to a place of safety.

The charge went off, but the gun did not explode. It was a loud report, and the consequence was that the party was taken for a rebel cavalry company.

Mr. Moore retired to the shore, and the party, with the military, who Captain Eastman and Mr. Carpenter ran into a ravine, a place specially provided by the rebels for their own safety whenever they saw a Union ship coming. On the gun being discharged a piece of the shell under the carriage actually entered the narrow passage in which the two gentlemen were, and shattered a cedar plank which lined the passage.

Captain Eastman had a very narrow escape.

As the gun did not burst, Mr. Carpenter knocked off the trunnions, and otherwise disabled it, rendering it useless.

Mr. George Good, a blue jacket, belonging to the Annapolis, has received an appointment as Acting Master's Mate.

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From San Francisco.

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NEW YORK HERALD, FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1862.

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